AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An ink-jet printer system, comprising:

a common ink-jet printer shared by a multiple number of host machines, the ink-jet printer being ~~; and~~

~~an ink-jet printer~~ provided with storage means which ~~updates and~~ stores a completion time instant of a last printing operation conducted based on a print request and print data issued by a host machine, the ink-jet printer providing printing end data to the host machine when the print request requested by the host machine has completed,

wherein, each host machine includes print control means for reading out a previously stored ~~the~~ completion time instant from the ink-jet printer at the start of a printing operation, obtaining an inactive time by comparing the read out previously stored completion time instant with the current time, and selectively issuing an execution order of a recovery treatment to the ink-jet printer by comparing the obtained inactive time with a predetermined reference time period, and

wherein, the host machine provides the ink-jet printer with current time data, as an updated previously stored completion time instant, when the printing end data is received from the ink-jet printer.

2. (Previously Presented) The ink-jet printer system according to Claim 1, wherein the print control means includes time measuring means for measuring the current time and transfers the current time measured by the time measuring means at the end of a printing operation to the ink-jet printer as the completion time instant of the printing operation.

3. (Previously Presented) The ink-jet printer system according to Claim 1, wherein the print control means determines whether or not the completion time instant of the last printing operation read out from the ink-jet printer is valid and gives the execution order of the recovery treatment if the completion time instant is invalid.

4. (Previously Presented) The ink-jet printer system according to Claim 2, wherein the print control means determines whether or not the completion time instant of the last printing operation read out from the ink-jet printer is valid and gives the execution order of the recovery treatment if the completion time instant is invalid.

5. (Previously Presented) The ink-jet printer system according to Claim 1, wherein if the completion time instant which was read from the ink-jet printer at the end of the last printing operation indicates a later time than the current time, the print control means issues to the ink-jet printer a command of prohibiting the update of the completion time instant held in the storage means.

6. (Previously Presented) The ink-jet printer system according to Claim 2, wherein if the completion time instant which was read from the ink-jet printer at the end of the last printing operation indicates a later time than the current time, the print control means issues to the ink-jet printer a command of prohibiting the update of the completion time instant held in the storage means.

7. (Previously Presented) The ink-jet printer system according to Claim 3, wherein if the completion time instant which was read from the ink-jet printer at the end of the last printing operation indicates a later time than the current time, the print control means issues to the ink-jet printer a command of prohibiting the update of the completion time instant held in the storage means.

8. (Previously Presented) The ink-jet printer system according to Claim 4, wherein if the completion time instant which was read from the ink-jet printer at the end of the last printing operation indicates a later time than the current time, the print control means issues to the ink-jet printer a command of prohibiting the update of the completion time instant held in the storage means.

9. (Previously Presented) The ink-jet printer system according to Claim 1, wherein if the completion time instant which was read from the ink-jet printer at the end of the last printing operation indicates a later time than the current time, the print control means informs that fact to other host machines and provides warning.

10. (Previously Presented) The ink-jet printer system according to Claim 2, wherein if the completion time instant which was read from the ink-jet printer at the end of the last printing operation indicates a later time than the current time, the print control means informs that fact to other host machines and provides warning.

11. (Previously Presented) The ink-jet printer system according to Claim 3, wherein if the completion time instant which was read from the ink-jet printer at the end of the last printing operation indicates a later time than the current time, the print control means informs that fact to other host machines and provides warning.

12. (Previously Presented) The ink-jet printer system according to Claim 4, wherein if the completion time instant which was read from the ink-jet printer at the end of the last printing operation indicates a later time than the current time, the print control means informs that fact to other host machines and provides warning.

13. (Previously Presented) The ink-jet printer system according to Claim 5, wherein if the completion time instant which was read from the ink-jet printer at the end of the last printing operation indicates a later time than the current time, the print control means informs that fact to other host machines and provides warning.

14. (Previously Presented) The ink-jet printer system according to Claim 6, wherein if the completion time instant which was read from the ink-jet printer at the end of the last printing operation indicates a later time than the current time, the print control means informs that fact to other host machines and provides warning.

15. (Previously Presented) The ink-jet printer system according to Claim 7, wherein if the completion time instant which was read from the ink-jet printer at the end of the

last printing operation indicates a later time than the current time, the print control means informs that fact to other host machines and provides warning.

16. (Previously Presented) The ink-jet printer system according to Claim 8, wherein if the completion time instant which was read from the ink-jet printer at the end of the last printing operation indicates a later time than the current time, the print control means informs that fact to other host machines and provides warning.

17. (Previously Presented) The ink-jet printer system according to Claim 2, further comprising:

a clock server for indicating the current time, wherein the print control means reads the current time from the clock server at regular intervals and updates the current time measured by the time measuring means based on the read current time.

18. (Previously Presented) The ink-jet printer system according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a clock server for indicating the current time, wherein the storage means updates and stores the current time indicated by the clock server at the printing operation end as the completion time instant of the last printing operation.

19. (Previously Presented) The ink-jet printer system according to Claim 1, wherein

when the host machine issues the print request to the ink-jet printer, the ink-jet printer transfers the completion time instant to the host machine before execution of printing.

20. (Previously Presented) The ink-jet printer system according to Claim 1, wherein

the ink-jet printer stores the completion time instant without outputting the updated completion time instant until a next print request is generated by one of the multiple number of host machines is received by the ink-jet printer

21 (New) The ink-jet printer system according to Claim 1, wherein the execution order of the recovery treatment is the treatment wherein amount of ink ejection is made larger as inactive time of printing operation becomes longer while the amount of ink ejection is made smaller as inactive time of printing operation becomes shorter.